

Claims

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. A method for developing a long-term financial plan comprising:
 - projecting expected yearly income for a period of time;
 - projecting expected yearly expenses for said period of time; and
 - providing at least one of investment advice for any surplus of income over
 expenses and financing advice for any deficit of income over expenses.
- 10 2. The method of claim 1 wherein the user income and expense history resident on external databases can be accessed by the model.
- 15 3. The method of claim 1 wherein the user can introduce risk events into the model.
4. The method of claim 3 wherein the risk event includes at least one of :
 - job loss, disability, casualty, market downturn, divorce, theft, fire, collision.
- 20 5. The method of claim 1 wherein the model predicts and highlights potential cash flow surplus and cash flow shortage for the user.
6. The method of claim 1 wherein the user the use may receive at least one of customized automated coaching and counseling by a live advisor.
- 25 7. The method of claim 6, wherein the access to said automated coaching and said live advisor is based on a service level agreement.

8. The method of claim 1 wherein the financial model displays the aggregate cash flow in the form of a timeline over a defined period of time.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein each annual point of said timeline can be interactively

5 dragged up and down on its vertical axis.

10. The method of claim 9 the financial model recalculates the aggregated cash flow based on the new positions of said annual points.

10 11. A system for developing a long term financial plan comprising:

a user computer system coupled to a wide area network;

a financial model generator coupled to said wide area network for projecting yearly user income and user expenses for a plurality of years ; and

a financial counseling server coupled to said wide area network for dispensing
15 financial advice related to a projected user cash flow over said plurality of years.

12. The system of claim 11 wherein the user income and expense history resident on external databases can be accessed by the financial model generator through the wide area network.

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13. The system of claim 11 further comprising a risk generator for introducing risk events into the financial model.

14. The system of claim 13 wherein the risk event includes at least one of :

job loss, disability, casualty, market downturn, divorce, theft, fire, collision.

15. The system of claim 11 wherein the financial model generator predicts and highlights

5 potential cash flow surplus and cash flow shortage.

16. The financial model server of claim 11 further comprising at least one of an
automated coaching engine and live advising interface to dispense advise.

10 17. The financial model of claim 11 wherein the access to said automated coaching and
said live advisor is controlled by a service level agreement negotiated with a service level
generator.

15 18. The financial model generator of claim 11 wherein the financial model displays the
aggregate cash flow in the form of a timeline over a defined period of time.

19. The system of claim 11 wherein each annual point of said timeline can be
interactively dragged up and down on its vertical axis.

20 20. A computer program embodied on a computer readable medium for developing a
long term financial plan comprising:

code for projecting expected yearly income for a period of time;

code for projecting expected yearly expenses for said period of time; and

code for providing at least one of investment advice for any surplus of income over expenses and financing advice for any deficit of income over expenses.

21. The computer program embodied on a computer readable medium of claim 20 further comprising code for accessing the user income and expense history resident on external databases.

22. The computer program embodied on a computer readable medium of claim 20 further comprising a code segment for introducing risk events into the model.

23. The computer program embodied on a computer readable medium of claim 22 wherein the risk event includes at least one of:
job loss, disability, casualty, market downturn, divorce, theft, fire, collision.

24. The computer program embodied on a computer readable medium of claim 20 further comprising a code segment for predicting and highlighting potential cash flow surplus and cash flow shortage for the user.

25. The computer program embodied on a computer readable medium of claim 20 further comprising:

a code segment for dispensing automated coaching advice ;and

a code segment for dispensing live advise.

26. The computer program embodied on a computer readable medium of claim 20 further comprising a code segment for a service level generator wherein said service level generator controls the user access to the live advisor.

5 27. The computer program embodied on a computer readable medium of claim 20 further comprising a code segment for displaying the aggregated cash flow in the form of a timeline over a defined period of time.

28. The computer program embodied on a computer readable medium of claim 27
10 further comprising a code segment dragging up and down each annual point of said timeline interactively on its axis.

29. The computer program embodied on a computer readable medium of claim 28
further comprising a code segment for recalculating the aggregated cash flow based on
15 the new positions of said annual points.